

Attorney Docket No.: DEX-0142
Inventors: Macina et al.
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1. (amended) A method for diagnosing the presence of gastrointestinal cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) determining levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in cells, tissues or bodily fluids in a patient; and

(b) comparing the determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 with levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in cells, tissues or bodily fluids from a normal human control, wherein a change in determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in said patient versus normal human control is associated with the presence of gastrointestinal cancer.

2. (amended) A method of diagnosing metastases of gastrointestinal cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having gastrointestinal cancer that is not known to have metastasized;

(b) determining levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense

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sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in a sample of cells, tissues, or bodily fluid from said patient; and

(c) comparing the determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 with levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in cells, tissue, or bodily fluid of a normal human control, wherein a decrease in determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in the patient versus the normal human control is associated with a cancer which has metastasized.

3. (amended) A method of staging gastrointestinal cancer in a patient having gastrointestinal cancer comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having gastrointestinal cancer;
(b) determining levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in a sample of cells, tissue, or bodily fluid from said patient; and

(c) comparing determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 with levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or

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a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in cells, tissues, or bodily fluid of a normal human control, wherein a decrease in determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in said patient versus the normal human control is associated with a cancer which is progressing and an increase in the determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 is associated with a cancer which is regressing or in remission.

4. (amended) A method of monitoring gastrointestinal cancer in a patient for the onset of metastasis comprising:
(a) identifying a patient having gastrointestinal cancer that is not known to have metastasized;
(b) periodically determining levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in samples of cells, tissues, or bodily fluid from said patient; and
(c) comparing the periodically determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 with levels

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of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in cells, tissues, or bodily fluid of a normal human control, wherein a decrease in any one of the periodically determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in the patient versus the normal human control is associated with a cancer which has metastasized.

A1 5. (amended) A method of monitoring a change in stage of gastrointestinal cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having gastrointestinal cancer;
(b) periodically determining levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in cells, tissues, or bodily fluid from said patient; and

(c) comparing the periodically determined levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 with levels of SEQ ID NO:3 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in cells, tissues, or bodily fluid of a normal human control, wherein a decrease in any one of the periodically determined